

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1853

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## AN ACT

To direct the President to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN THE INTER-**  
2 **NATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZA-**  
3 **TION.**

4 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following find-  
5 ings:

6 (1) Safety, security and peace is important to  
7 every citizen of the world, and shared information  
8 ensuring wide assistance among police authorities of  
9 nations for expeditious dissemination of information  
10 regarding criminal activities greatly assists in these  
11 efforts.

12 (2) Direct and unobstructed participation in the  
13 International Criminal Police Organization  
14 (INTERPOL) is beneficial for all nations and their  
15 police authorities. Internationally shared information  
16 with authorized police authorities is vital to peace-  
17 keeping efforts.

18 (3) With a history dating back to 1914, the role  
19 of INTERPOL is defined in its constitution: “To  
20 ensure and promote the widest possible mutual as-  
21 sistance between all criminal police authorities with-  
22 in the limits of the laws existing in the different  
23 countries and in the spirit of the Universal Declara-  
24 tion of Human Rights.”.

25 (4) Ongoing international threats, including  
26 international networks of terrorism, show the ongo-

1       ing necessity to be ever inclusive of nations willing  
2       to work together to combat criminal activity. The  
3       ability of police authorities to coordinate, preempt,  
4       and act swiftly and in unison is an essential element  
5       of crisis prevention and response.

6               (5) Taiwan maintained full membership in  
7       INTERPOL starting in 1964 through its National  
8       Police Administration but was ejected in 1984 when  
9       the People's Republic of China (PRC) applied for  
10       membership.

11              (6) Nonmembership prevents Taiwan from  
12       gaining access to INTERPOL's I-24/7 global police  
13       communications system, which provides real-time in-  
14       formation on criminals and global criminal activities.  
15       Taiwan is relegated to second-hand information from  
16       friendly nations, including the United States.

17              (7) Taiwan is unable to swiftly share informa-  
18       tion on criminals and suspicious activity with the  
19       international community, leaving a huge void in the  
20       global crime-fighting efforts and leaving the entire  
21       world at risk.

22              (8) The United States, in the 1994 Taiwan Pol-  
23       icy Review, declared its intention to support Tai-  
24       wan's participation in appropriate international or-

1 organizations and has consistently reiterated that sup-  
2 port.

3 (9) Following the enactment of Public Law  
4 108–235, a law authorizing the Secretary of State to  
5 initiate and implement a plan to endorse and obtain  
6 observer status for Taiwan at the annual summit of  
7 the World Health Assembly and subsequent advo-  
8 cacy by the United States, Taiwan was granted ob-  
9 server status to the World Health Assembly for six  
10 consecutive years since 2009. Both prior to and in  
11 its capacity as an observer, Taiwan has contributed  
12 significantly to the international community’s collec-  
13 tive efforts in pandemic control, monitoring, early  
14 warning, and other related matters.

15 (10) INTERPOL’s constitution allows for ob-  
16 servers at its meetings by “police bodies which are  
17 not members of the Organization”.

18 (b) TAIWAN’S PARTICIPATION IN INTERPOL.—The  
19 President shall—

20 (1) develop a strategy to obtain observer status  
21 for Taiwan in INTERPOL and at other related  
22 meetings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter; and

23 (2) instruct INTERPOL Washington to offi-  
24 cially request observer status for Taiwan in  
25 INTERPOL and to actively urge INTERPOL mem-

1       ber states to support such observer status and par-  
2       ticipation for Taiwan.

3       (c) REPORT CONCERNING OBSERVER STATUS FOR  
4 TAIWAN IN INTERPOL.—Not later than 30 days after  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall  
6 transmit to Congress a report, in unclassified form, de-  
7 scribing the United States strategy to endorse and obtain  
8 observer status for Taiwan in INTERPOL and at other  
9 related meetings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter.  
10 The report shall include the following:

11           (1) A description of the efforts the President  
12       has made to encourage INTERPOL member states  
13       to promote Taiwan’s bid to obtain observer status in  
14       INTERPOL.

15           (2) A description of the actions the President  
16       will take to endorse and obtain observer status for  
17       Taiwan in INTERPOL and at other related meet-  
18       ings, activities, and mechanisms thereafter.

Passed the House of Representatives November 2,  
2015.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

114<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

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